



Supporting Forests and Biodiversity

Cooperative Agreement No. AID-442-A-13-00002

First Quarterly Report

October – December 2012

Submitted to:

United States Agency for International Development

Submitted by:

Winrock International

January 31, 2013

Table of Contents

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
II. ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS.....	5
Administration	5
Objective 1: Enhance effectiveness of government and key natural resource managers at national and sub-national levels to sustainably manage forests and conserve biodiversity	5
Objective 2: Improve constructive dialogue on forest management and economic development at the national and sub-national levels	6
Objective 3: Increase equitable economic benefits from the sustainable management of forests	7
III. PROBLEMS/OBSTACLES ENCOUNTERED.....	7
IV. CURRENT STATUS OF ACTIVITIES AND DELIVERABLES AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES	8
V. PERSONNEL	20
VI. FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE	21

ACRONYMS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
BCC	Biodiversity Conservation Corridors
CBPF	Community-based Production Forestry
CBNA	Capacity Building Needs Assessment
CBNRM	Community-based Natural Resources Management
CCB	Climate, Community & Biodiversity Standard
CCBA	Climate, Community & Biodiversity Alliance
CCF	Community Conservation Forest
CF	Community Forest
CIP	Commune Investment Program
COP	Chief of Party
CO ₂	Carbon Dioxide
CPA	Community Protected Area
CPN	Community Peace-building Network
CYN	Cambodian Youth Network
ELC	Economic Land Concession
EPL	Eastern Plains Landscape
EWMI	East West Management Institute
FA	Forestry Administration
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
GDA	Global Development Alliance
GIS	Geographical Information System
GIZ	<i>Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German Society for International Cooperation)</i>
GNC	Grassroots Networking and Constituency
GPS	Global Positioning System
HARVEST	Helping Address Rural Vulnerabilities and Ecosystem Stability
ha	Hectare
H.E.	His Excellency
ICC	Indigenous Community Congress
ICLT	Indigenous Community Land Title
InVEST	Integrated Valuation of Ecosystem Services and Tradeoffs
Landsat	Land Satellite
LEAF	Lowering Emissions in Asian Forests
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
MPF	Mondulkiri Protected Forest
MIST	Management Information SysTem
MLMUPC	Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction
MoE	Ministry of Environment

MOMS	Management Orientated Monitoring System
MPF	Mondulkiri Protected Forest
NCDD	National Committee for Decentralization and Deconcentration
No.	Number
Norad	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NRM	Natural Resources Management
NTFP	Non-timber Forest Products
ODC	Open Development Cambodia
PCPU	Provincial Conservation Planning Unit
PDD	Product Design Document
PDoe	Provincial Department of Environment
PLCN	Prey Lang Community Network
PLL	Prey Lang Landscape
PMEP	Project Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PPWS	Phnom Prich Wildlife Sanctuary
RECOFTC	Center for People and Forests
REDD+	Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
RGC	Royal Government of Cambodia
RUA	Royal University of Agriculture
RUPP	Royal University of Phnom Penh
SCW	Save Cambodia's Wildlife
SFB	Supporting Forests and Biodiversity Project
SMART	Spatial Monitoring and Report Tool
SPF	Seima Protection Forest
TBD	To Be Determined
TOR	Terms of Reference
ToT	Training of Trainers
UAV	Unmanned Aerial Vehicle
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UN-REDD	United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
USGS	United States Geological Survey
VCS	Verified Carbon Standard
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society
WI	Winrock International
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Supporting Forests and Biodiversity (SFB) project, which is a four-year \$20 million project funded through the USAID Mission in Cambodia, was made effective in November 2012. One of the primary tasks during its initial mobilization stages during the past quarter was the development of a draft of the project's first year work plan produced through the collective efforts of the Winrock project team and its project partners, including the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), the East West Management Institute (EWMI), and the Center for People and Forests (RECOFTC). The draft was submitted to USAID on December 24, 2012. The site of the project office was also selected and the process of negotiating the rental agreement for office space was initiated, as well, during the period, as were the procedures to establish US dollar and Cambodian Riel project bank accounts.

There were several project accomplishments during the quarter notwithstanding the shortened reporting period. Those included, in the Eastern Plains Landscape, the mapping of the indigenous land claims of 5 villages, the initiation a pre-harvest timber inventory in the community-based production forestry pilot, and the development of a biodiversity monitoring plan in the Seima Protected Forest. These were extended, in the Prey Lang Landscape, to the initiation of a scoping study to map the landscape's various stakeholders, including civil society organizations, as well as local Forestry Administration sub-national officials, other local authorities, and NGOs, and the provision of support to the Prey Lang Community Network to conduct its first national dialogue on Prey Lang. Overtures were also extended to achieve collective program synergies through collaboration with other donor programs, especially in the Eastern Plains Landscape with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Biodiversity Conservation Corridors project and the German Society for International Cooperation's (GIZ's) land registration and titling activities.

Plans for the next quarter are to complete project mobilization efforts with respect to establishing operations in the project office, activating the project's bank accounts, completing the process of interviewing and contracting project personnel, and initiating the procurement of project materials and equipment. Those activities which are planned to be precursors or to achieve, project results during the next quarter, some of which are predicated on a sequence of planned collaborations with the USAID regional LEAF program, include: (1) under objective 1 to 'enhance effectiveness of government and key natural resource managers at national and sub-national levels to sustainably manage forests and conserve biodiversity,' the completion of voluntary carbon market Project Design Documents for the Seima REDD+ pilot; the indigenous registration of 5 villages in the Seima Protection Forest (this will be the theme of a future success story); and collaborative support to conduct biodiversity inventories in the Prey Lang Landscape; (2) under objective 2 to 'improve constructive dialogue on forest management and economic development at the national and sub-national levels,' the completion of the stakeholder mapping activities in each of the project's landscapes; continued support to the Prey Lang Community Network to undertake two more

national dialogues targeting downstream farmers and fishers, and university students; and the signing of the Seima REDD+ pilot, ‘Free, Prior and Informed Consent,’ between 20 indigenous villages, provincial authorities and the FA; and (3) under objective 3 to ‘increase equitable economic benefits from the sustainable management of forests,’ the delineation of target villages to improve livelihoods in the Eastern Plains Landscape, as well as the development of an ecotourism strategy in the Seima Protected Forest; the enhancement of women’s leadership roles in natural resources, biodiversity, and climate change-related activities through collaboration with the LEAF project; completion of the pre-harvest inventory and associated training in timber harvesting techniques in the community-based production forestry pilot; and the assessment of harvesting technologies that would add value to resin producers in the Eastern Plains Landscape.

II. ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The activities and accomplishments during the project's first quarter of operations are summarized in the following discussion under the headings of 'Administration' and the project's contributions to the achievement of 'Objective 1,' 'Objective 2,' and 'Objective 3.'

Administration

- The project office was selected in the Phnom Penh Centre and the process of negotiating the rental agreement for office space was initiated.¹
- The procedures to establish a US dollar bank account and a bank account in Cambodian Riels were also initiated with the COP and the DCOP authorized signatories on both of the accounts.
- Project partners reviewed financial procedures and policies to assure consistency with USAID requirements and grant policies, rules and regulations.

Objective 1: Enhance effectiveness of government and key natural resource managers at national and sub-national levels to sustainably manage forests and conserve biodiversity.

Activity 1.2.1: Support capacity building of line ministries and participating communities on the design, establishment and sustainable management of forests within, as well as surrounding, conservation areas, including the proposed Prey Lang Protected Forest.

- Provided management support to Forestry Administration officials through the monitoring of the management effectiveness of the Seima Protected Forest using WCS's Management Information SysTem (MIST) to help prevent poaching. Currently, levels of illegal poaching of wildlife are considered unsustainable, and wildlife numbers are believed to be depressed as a result of poaching.
- Established coordination mechanisms with the ADB Biodiversity Conservation Corridors project to assure synergy in project implementation.
- WWF consulted separate meetings with Dr. Keo Omaliss, the Forest Administration and Mr. Sy Ramony, the Ministry of Environment at the national level about government efforts to complete management plans for the Mondulkiri Protected Forest and the Phnom Prich Wildlife Sanctuary and the means by which the Supporting Forests and Biodiversity project might most effectively support those efforts.²

Activity 1.2.2: Support capacity building of line ministries and participating communities through the establishment and management of community-managed forest areas and land titles.

- WCS community teams supported local people in 5 villages in the Eastern Plains Landscape (4 villages in Sre Chhuk commune, and one in Sre Preah commune) to map their indigenous land

¹ USAID Comment (February 8, 2013): Is there an estimated date to sign contract? SFB Response: The rental contract was signed February 15, 2013.

² USAID Comment (February 6, 2013): Who organized this meeting? When? With whom? What were the results of this meeting? Who did you meet with? SFB Response: Result of these meetings, MOE & FA agreed to move with MPF Management Plan that will help to improve the management and enforcement. FA started to work under agreement in 2014 and the plan will be finalized and approved by beginning of 2015

claims. The population of these villages is around 470 households. Provided documentation of those claims to the provincial Department of Land Management and the Prime Minister's land titling efforts. Those claims are expected to be endorsed through the ongoing land titling activities.

- Activity 1.2.2: Support capacity building of line ministries and participating communities through the establishment and management of community-managed forest areas and land titles No activities to report this quarter.
-

Activity 1.2.3: Enhance the incorporation of biodiversity information into spatial planning and management planning.

- Working with Forestry Administration officials, and WCS field teams, we developed a plan for biodiversity monitoring activities in the Seima Protection Forest. This is essential for monitoring the status of wildlife, and the impacts of threats of poaching and habitat loss. The biodiversity monitoring activities will be put into practice over the coming dry season.

Objective 2: Improve constructive dialogue on forest management and economic development at the national and sub-national levels.

Activity 2.1.1: Mapping key local stakeholders to support comprehensive stakeholder participation incorporating gender representation.

- Initiated a civil society scoping study to map stakeholders in the Prey Lang Landscape, particularly those attempting to work with the Prey Lang Community Network and/or employing approaches which might compete with the project's strategy.³ The purpose is to describe opportunities and risks associated with working with various civil society groups, identify potential civil society partners, and describe possible strategies for managing civil society relations.
- Initiated a complementary scoping study of local Forestry Administration sub-national officials at the Triage, Division, and Cantonment levels in the four provinces comprising the proposed boundaries of the Prey Lang Protected Forest, as well as of local authorities, including commune councils, districts, and provinces, and 15 international and local NGOs. As a part of that scoping, community forests on the periphery of the proposed boundaries of the Prey Lang Protected Forest were reviewed. Preliminary results indicate that of the 49⁴ Community Forests on the periphery of the proposed boundaries, 16⁵ have a signed Community Forestry Agreement, none of which are in Preah Vihear province.

³ USAID Comment (February 6, 2013): Did you get any results from stakeholder mapping? SFB Response: This was only initiated during this quarter, since the project had only just started up. The study was still in progress at the end of Q1 and had not yet produced results of note.

⁴ USAID Comment (February 06, 2013): How many in each province? SFB response: These 49 CFs included 20 in Kampong Thom, 6 in Kratie, 16 in Preah Vihear, and 7 in Stung Treng

⁵ USAID Comment (February 06, 2014): How many in each province? SFB response: 13 in Kampong Thom, 1 in Kratie, and 2 in Stung Treng.

Activity 2.1.2: Provide material and financial support to the Prey Lang Community Network to allow them to emerge as a more effective force for community-based natural resource management.

- Supported, with other donors,⁶ the Prey Lang Community Network and Friends of the Forest to conduct their first national-level dialogue on Prey Lang.⁷ The meeting engaged 70 participants, 20 of whom were women, from fisher, farmer, and indigenous networks around the country,⁸ as well as youth groups, and NGOs, in learning of the value of the Prey Lang Landscape and reviewing the draft sub-decree on the establishment of the Prey Lang Protected Forest. The participants recommended that the dialogue workshop be repeated with more groups and that the Prey Lang Community Network and Friends of the Forest use various means to increase public understanding of the Prey Lang Landscape, particularly its values for communities living outside of the area.⁹

Activity 2.1.3: Strengthen existing mechanisms and procedures for enabling participation in management planning of conservation areas.

- Continued ongoing consultations with local indigenous communities in the Seima Protected Forest regarding the process of 'Free, Prior and Informed Consent' (FPIC) with respect to the Seima REDD+ pilot activity. A total of 8 meetings were held during this quarter, involving around 686 people (292 female). The meetings were facilitated by WCS/FA teams with experience in REDD and community work. A full report on the FPIC process is available on request.

⁶ USAID Comment (February 6, 2013): Please specify, what did you support? Did we support the same activities with other donors? SFB Response: EWTI supported travel costs for 33 participants, as well as providing lunch, refreshments and drinking water with SFB funds. Other donors contributed to venue rental, some participant costs, and materials.

⁷ USAID Comment (February 6, 2013): Where was the first national level dialogue organized? Were any government officials part of this? If so, who are they? Results of the workshop? SFB Response: This workshop was organized by PLCN and Friends of the Forest as a civil society dialogue. It did not include government officials. The intent was to get feedback from other citizen groups about Prey Lang's values to provide feedback and support for a Prey Lang sub-decree that was informally circulated. The result was that participants who included downstream communities endorsed the idea of some sort of legal protection for Prey Lang, as well as providing ideas for how communities could be involved in its protection. They recommended that these dialogues be expanded to engage a wider range of participants.

⁸ USAID Comment (February 6, 2013): Is it nationwide? Why the numbers of participants look smaller? Who initiated this dialogue? How many days for this dialogue? SFB Response: This was a "national level" CSO workshop in that participants included a range of grassroots leaders and community members active in various NRM activities (CFs, CFisheries, indigenous land registration and IP rights, youth interested in environmental protection, etc.) from OUTSIDE of Prey Lang to learn about the PLL, and comment on the PL sub-decree since PL ecosystems values contribute to the whole country. This was a 2-day dialogue, initiated by PLCN and Friends of the Forest. The # of participants was limited by 1) funds available 2) size of venues available 3) manageable size group for facilitating discussion and participation. The ideas was to have several of these, and in fact they did so in the next quarter with funding from a variety of other sources, not SFB.

⁹ USAID Comment (February 6, 2013): What is the main objective of this workshop? Do you have any follow up plans for this? SFB Response: The intent was to get feedback from other citizen groups about Prey Lang's values to provide feedback and support for a Prey Lang sub-decree that was informally circulated. The PLCN and Friends of the Forest planned to do other similar workshops in the future.

Activity 2.1.4: Support and extend the role of the Provincial Conservation Planning Unit.

- A meeting was held to initiate discussions with the Mondulkiri provincial government and WCS and WWF regarding the means of re-starting the Provincial Conservation Planning Unit. The government was interested to evolve this unit into a more formal mechanism, embedded closely within the existing provincial government structure.

Activity 2.2.1: Increase the technical abilities required for fact-based decision-making.

- Supported the public information website,¹⁰ ‘Open Development Cambodia,’ in its efforts to (1) establish a geo-server to enable the utilization of a wider range of base maps, including a topographical map with Khmer place names and land-sat images; (2) develop a taxonomy for geo-coding and coding “custom post-types” to support it and enable integrated searches of the site; and (3) establish an initial 100-word glossary, providing guidance for translation of technical terms in advance of the translation of the site into Khmer.
- Established informal contact with Can Tho University’s Department of Environmental Management in Vietnam, which is concerned about downstream impacts of development in the Mekong Delta and has some expertise in modelling. Interest was expressed to collaborate on research efforts to demonstrate the environmental impacts of various proposed developments in the Prey Lang Landscape.

Objective 3: Increase equitable economic benefits from the sustainable management of forests.

Activity 3.1.3: Support enterprise development in selected target villages in the EPL.

- No activities to report this quarter.

Activity 3.1.4: Expand and strengthen ongoing timber, NTFP and ecotourism enterprises in the EPL.

- Assessed the steps which would be required to establish the community timber harvesting enterprise in the community-based production forestry pilot, as well as the capacity of the local community to undertake those activities. This work was carried out in the three communities in Sre Preah commune which are involved with the CBPF pilot.
- Trained 20 people, including 4 women, over three days on forest inventory methods for supporting in the community-based production forestry pilot. The training was aimed to develop a field team who could conduct pre-harvest timber inventories, and was held in Pu Char village, for representatives from all three villages which are involved in the pilot.

¹⁰ USAID Comment (February 7, 2013): What did you support? For instance, provide trainings on...? SFB Response: EWMI provided advice, technical assistance and funding to: 1) establish a geo-server to enable the utilization of a wider range of base maps, including a topographical map with Khmer place names and land-sat images; (2) develop a taxonomy for geo-coding and coding “custom post-types” to support it and enable integrated searches of the site; and 3) establish an initial 100-word glossary, providing guidance for translation of technical terms in advance of the translation of the site into Khmer.

- Following this training, we initiated the pre-harvest timber inventory in the community-based production forestry pilot in Sre Preah Commune.

III. PROBLEMS/OBSTACLES ENCOUNTERED

The primary problem or obstacle which was encountered in mobilizing the project during its initial quarter of implementation was the removal from consideration, or postponement of the starting date, of key personnel expected to be mobilized at the start of the project. This included the removal from consideration of Ly Khim from the position of Objective 2 Program Leader on the basis of a personal career choice and the postponement of the starting date of Matt Leggett, employed through WCS, in the position of Objective 1 Program Leader as the result of an unexpected delay associated with the time required for him to provide notice to his employer. The Objective 2 Program Leader position was advertised during the quarter and will be filled in the next quarter and the responsibilities of the Objective 1 Program Leader are currently under the management of WCS.

Problems or obstacles encountered in implementing the project which were reported by project partners during the quarter included the following:

WWF

The planned socio-economic surveys in the Eastern Plains Landscape will have to be coordinated with the ADB Biodiversity Conservation Corridors project because that project also plans to do the same types of surveys in the area. This might result in unavoidable delays in implementing those surveys, depending on the ADB's timeframe. A meeting to coordinate this with the ADB Team Lead is scheduled for February.

EWMI

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by a Cambodian company and a Chinese company on December 31, 2012 to construct a railway and a seaport in Cambodia to service iron mining in the country's north and northeast. The rail line will initiate in Rovieng District, Preah Vihear, and end at a port on Cambodia's coast. The project will support mining across the Prey Lang Landscape in the provinces of Stung Treng, Kratie and Preah Vihear, as well as Ratanakiri.

The project is planned to start in July of this year. If it proceeds as planned, it might engender potentially devastating impacts on the integrity of the Prey Lang Landscape. If its watershed is to retain its integrity and ecosystem values, stakeholders will have to be engaged, particularly at the highest levels of government, in efforts to have the government assess the impacts of such large-scale conversion.

IV. CURRENT STATUS OF ACTIVITIES AND DELIVERABLES AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES

The current status of activities and deliverables and planned activities during the next quarter are described in the following table. The responsible parties for the implementation of those activities and deliverables are indicated in parentheses in the descriptions provided under the heading of '2nd Quarter Activities.' The draft work plan and the draft Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (PMEP) are subject to revision next quarter on the basis of comments provided by USAID and project reporting on approved PMEP indicators will start to appear in the next quarterly report.

Activities	Deliverables	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2 nd Quarter Activities
<i>Sub Objective 1.1. National level capacity to support the sustainable management of forests, biodiversity conservation, REDD+, and low-emissions development strengthened.</i>						
1.1.1 Training Program on REDD+ and Sustainable Forest Management.	Design of short courses/seminar series linked to implementation of project activities.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The REDD+ training activity, which has now been more effectively scheduled to take advantage of the planned collaboration with USAID's regional LEAF program to link REDD+ national and sub-national approaches through an appropriate nesting framework developed and tested at the regional level by Climate Focus, is scheduled to start in the project's third quarter (LEAF; Winrock International team).
	Skill improvement through workshops and training sessions..					
1.1.2 Collaborations with universities.	Collaboration with other donors, the USAID HARVEST project, and the regional USAID LEAF project in the establishment of working relationships and MOUs with universities, including the Royal University of Agriculture in Cambodia.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mapping of current donors and donor-supported projects collaborating with Cambodian universities in curriculum development and other initiatives associated with teaching and learning related to natural resources, biodiversity, and climate change and subsequent organization of discussions with those programs, as well as with Cambodian universities (Winrock project team).
1.1.3 Technical feasibility analyses for planned interventions.	Collation of data sets on forest cover, forest carbon stocks, hydrology, and drivers of deforestation.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collation of available data sets (Winrock project team and project partners).
	Feasibility assessment of REDD+ in the Prey Lang Landscape.					
	Technical design of implementation plan for REDD+ in Mondulkiri.					

Activities	Deliverables	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2 nd Quarter Activities
1.1.4 Support to implementation of REDD+ safeguards.	Report on agreed social and environmental safeguards and implementation processes in the Prey Lang Landscape and the Eastern Plains Landscape.					<ul style="list-style-type: none">Preparation of a report on the development of the ‘Free, Prior and Informed Consent’ process in the Seima Protected Forest which will provide the legal basis for the Seima REDD+ pilot’s engagement with local communities (WCS).
	Organization of workshops and a training plan for government officials and relevant stakeholders on social and environmental safeguards in the Eastern Plains Landscape.					
Sub-Objective 1.2: Sub-national Administration (SNA) and sub-national line ministry capacity to effectively meet evolving responsibilities in forest management sector increased						
Sub-Objective 1.3: Local-level technical skills for forest management and biodiversity conservation to support community-based natural resources management (CBNRM) improved.						

Activities	Deliverables	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2 nd Quarter Activities
1.2.1 Support capacity building of line ministries and communities on the design, establishment and sustainable management of forests within, as well as surrounding conservation areas, including the proposed Prey Lang Protected Forest.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Updated draft of the Prey Lang Protected Forest decree and initial proposal for its co-management. ▪ Revised management plan for the Mondulkiri Protected Forest, including updated zoning proposals. ▪ Action plan for developing the Phnom Prich Wildlife Sanctuary management plan. ▪ Validated Project Design Documents for the Seima Core Area REDD+ pilot. ▪ Enhanced management indicators and staff capacities in the three EPL conservation areas. 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up discussions with the Forestry Administration and the Ministry of Environment on management plan development in the Phnom Prich Wildlife Sanctuary and the Mondulkiri Protected Forest (WWF). • Training of Forestry Administration staff in the Seima Protected Forest – 5 days and 10 people (WCS). • Continued support for monitoring the management effectiveness of the Seima Protected Forest using the MISTmanagement system to prevent poaching (WCS). • Development of an appropriate response to land-grabbing by the Bin Phuc 1 rubber company in the Seima Protected Forest (WCS). • Coordination with the ADB Biodiversity Conservation Corridors project, especially in the five communes in the Seima Protected Forest (WCS). • Completion of the voluntary carbon market Project Design Documents for the Seima REDD+ pilot and their submission to the Forestry Administration for final review (WCS).

Activities	Deliverables	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2 nd Quarter Activities
1.2.2 Support capacity building of line ministries and participating communities through the establishment and management of community-managed forest areas and land titles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measurable progress through the sequence of declaration, management planning and implementation in targeted Community Forests, Protected Forests, Community-based Production Forestry, Community Conservation Forests, Community Protected Areas and Indigenous Community Land Title areas. Improved capacity of government officials and local communities to support processes to establish community-managed forest areas and land titles through line agencies and/or commune development planning. 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiation of management planning in existing Community Conservation Forests and Community Protected Areas in the Eastern Plains Landscape (WWF). Development of TORs and initiation of baseline studies (e.g., socio economic baseline surveys) in the Eastern Plains Landscape (WWF). Selection of target communities for Community Conservation Forests/Community Protected Areas establishment and livelihood development (WWF). Completion of the Community-based Implementation of the Production Forestry pre-harvest inventory in the Eastern Plains Landscape, followed by the training of 20 people, including 4 women, for 3 days on timber harvesting techniques and the subsequent issuance of timber harvesting permits to local people (WCS). Finalization of indigenous registration of 5 villages in the Seima Protected Forest and support for indigenous congresses in collaboration with GIZ (WCS).
	Provision of sub-grants to deliver climate change adaptation training.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The provision of sub-grants has now been more effectively scheduled to coincide with the status of project activities in the project's third quarter.

Activities	Deliverables	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2 nd Quarter Activities
1.2.3 Enhance the incorporation of biodiversity information into spatial planning and management planning.	Biodiversity data updates to inform site management planning.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation to Integrated Valuation of Environmental Services and Tradeoffs (InVest) decision-making – (WWF). • Development of an appropriate TOR for an economic valuation study of biodiversity (WWF). • Implementation of the biodiversity monitoring plan in the Seima Protected Forest (WCS). • Collaboration with the University of Copenhagen in its continuing efforts to conduct biodiversity inventories in Prey Lang (EWMI),
1.2.4 Development of sub-national REDD+ demonstration activities.	Agreed implementation approach to sub-national REDD+ in the Eastern Plains Landscape and subsequent assessment of its feasibility in the Prey Lang Landscape.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of a planned collaboration with USAID's regional LEAF program to link REDD+ national and sub-national approaches through an appropriate nesting framework developed and tested at the regional level by Climate Focus is scheduled to start, in the project's third quarter (LEAF; Winrock International team).
<i>Sub-Objective 2.1: Effective stakeholder participation in national and sub-national planning processes affecting forest land management and economic development increased.</i>						

Activities	Deliverables	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2 nd Quarter Activities
2.1.1 Mapping key local stakeholders to support comprehensive stakeholder participation incorporating gender representation.	Dialogue/coordination plan in each of the project's landscapes.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mapping of stakeholders in the Eastern Plains Landscape and the organization of stakeholder coordination meetings (WWF and WCS). Completion of the civil society scoping study and convening of a meeting to discuss the most effective means of constructively contributing to securing the Prey Lang Landscape's sustainable management, while also supporting the development of the Prey Land Community Network and Prey Lang forest communities (EWMI).
2.1.2 Provide material and financial support to the Prey Lang Community Network (PLCN).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Network leaders and key activists are oriented to evidence and information to develop positions and use their understanding effectively. 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of support to the Prey Lang Community Network to undertake at least two more national dialogues on Prey Lang. The first of those will target downstream farmer and fisher network leaders, while the other will engage university students. Subsequent to those dialogues, the Prey Lang Community Network will provide the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) with a statement expressing their concerns about developments in the Prey Lang Landscape and make recommendations based on the outputs of consultations organized at the local and national levels during the previous year and conduct a media conference to share those results.

Activities	Deliverables	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2 nd Quarter Activities
2.1.3 Strengthen existing mechanisms and procedures for enabling participation in management planning of conservation areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced community engagement and consultation on management of the Prey Lang Protected Forest. Enhanced community engagement in annual planning for the Seima Protected Forest and implementation of the REDD+ pilot. Strengthened community engagement in the review and finalization of the Mondulkiri Protected Forest zoning and management plan and in consultations on the Prey Lang Protected Forest sub-decree. 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signing of the Seima REDD+ pilot, 'Free, Prior and Informed Consent' (FPIC), between 20 indigenous villages, provincial authorities and the Forestry Administration, which will provide the legal basis for the Seima REDD+ pilot's engagement with local communities and includes initial provisions on benefit-sharing (WCS). Preparation of a report on the development of the 'Free, Prior and Informed Consent' (FPIC) process in the SPF which will provide the legal basis for the Seima REDD+ pilot's engagement with local communities (WCS).
2.1.4 Support and extend the role of the Provincial Conservation Planning Unit (PCPU).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased community participation in provincial-level development planning facilitated by the PCPU in the EPL. PCPU capacity for coordination and facilitation strengthened. 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued discussions with provincial government, coordinated with the ADB Biodiversity Conservation Corridors project, regarding re-starting the Provincial Conservation Planning Unit and its prospective role (WCS and WWF).
2.1.5 Promote increased community participation in annual planning processes, including Commune Development Planning, District Integration Workshops and provincial planning.	Specific measures identified for enhanced community engagement in commune development planning on forest management issues in both project landscapes.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of current processes used to encourage community engagement in commune development planning (project partners).
<i>Sub-Objective 2.2: Stakeholder understanding of forest land management, REDD+, biodiversity conservation, CBNRM, and relevant economic development planning issues strengthened</i>						
2.2.1 Increase the technical abilities required for fact-based decision-making.	Inception report for the InVEST process.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiation of updates of USAID MSME's "Rapid socio-economic and hydrological assessment of the Prey Lang forest and a modelling study conducted with Can Tho University in Vietnam to document changes in the Prey Lang Landscape since the previous research
	Hydrologic and modeling reports in the PLL.					
	Khmer language version of Open Development Cambodia.					

Activities	Deliverables	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2 nd Quarter Activities
	Ongoing updates of Open Development Cambodia and enhanced content, including monthly updates on Landsat images of forest cover.					<p>was undertaken in 2010 and the assessment of impacts of other proposed or anticipated development projects in the area (EWMI).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Development Cambodia launch of the enhanced geo-server and an online library of reports, the completion of coding to support geo-tagging and integrated searches, and initiation of the translation of the open access site to Khmer.
2.2.2 Develop and conduct awareness activities among local stakeholders regarding peoples' rights, access to natural resources, and biodiversity conservation.	Prey Lang Community Network-led awareness raising events.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of support to the Prey Lang Community Network to organize their annual strategic planning meeting.
<i>Sub-Objective 2.3: Dialogue skills of relevant stakeholders (community, government, and private sector) improved to engage with one another on forest and resources issues</i>						
2.3.1 Build facilitation and discussion skills of various stakeholders to engage with each other, as well as with other key stakeholders.	Training and capacity building on conflict mediation and negotiation in the Prey Lang Landscape, the Eastern Plains Landscape, and for national leaders					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This activity has not yet been scheduled to start.
2.3.2 Organize workshops and training programs on the current state of social and environmental safeguards for REDD+.	REDD+ training workshop for civil society representatives, in collaboration with other projects in each landscape.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The REDD+ training workshops, which have now been more effectively scheduled to take advantage of the planned collaboration with USAID's regional LEAF program to link REDD+ national and sub-national approaches through an appropriate nesting framework developed and tested at the regional level by Climate Focus, is scheduled to start in the project's third quarter (LEAF; Winrock International team; WCS).
<i>Sub-Objective 3.1: Incomes from livelihoods activities that support sustainable management of forests increased.</i>						

Activities	Deliverables	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2 nd Quarter Activities
3.1.1. Set-up of the SFB Small Grants Program.	Draft small grant criteria and guidelines and a monitoring manual for USAID approval.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drafting of appropriate criteria and guidelines (Winrock project team).
3.1.2. Identify core set of communities in the Eastern Plains Landscape and the Prey Lang Landscape to engage in livelihood activities.	Lists of participating communities engaged in livelihood activities.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Select target villages for livelihood development (WWF). Develop TORs for livelihood assessments and issue request for proposals (WWF). Prepare a report on livelihood assessments conducted in the Seima Protected Forest (WCS).
	Socio – economic baseline profile focused on incomes and livelihoods of engaged communities.					
	Livelihood assessments of target villages with recommendations for enterprise developments.					
3.1.3 Support enterprise development in selected target villages in the Eastern Plains Landscape.	Financial system and policies developed for target enterprises.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building of local villages in the Community-based Production Forestry pilot area for the community timber harvesting enterprise (WCS).
	Training on small enterprise development and management (i.e., quality control, production, marketing, financial management).					
	Enterprise groups in pilot sites formed.					
	Enterprise monitoring plans developed for identified enterprises.					
	Completion of at least two value chain analyses.					
3.1.4. Expand and strengthen ongoing timber, Non-timber forest products and ecotourism enterprises in the Eastern Plains Landscape.	Sustainable harvesting technology for resin identified.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaboration with technical experts to evaluate resin harvesting technologies and additional research required to add value to resin producers (WWF). Completion of the Community-based Production Forestry pre-harvest inventory,
	Certified documentation for honey enterprises.					

Activities	Deliverables	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2 nd Quarter Activities
	Enhanced capacity and infrastructure for community-based ecotourism.					<p>followed by the training of 20 people, including 4 women, for 3 days on timber harvesting techniques and the subsequent issuance of timber harvesting permits to local people (WCS).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building of local villages in the Community-based Production Forestry pilot area for the community timber harvesting enterprise (WCS). • Development of an ecotourism strategy for the Seima Protected Forest (WCS).
	Enhanced systems for enterprise development, benefit-sharing and forest management in the community-based production forestry pilot.					
3.1.5. Review options for extending non-timber forest product enterprise development models to the Prey Lang Landscape.	Plans for enterprise development in the Prey Lang Landscape.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This activity has not yet been scheduled to start.
<i>Sub-objective 3.2: Payment for environmental service (PES) activities (e.g. REDD+) established or supported in targeted landscapes with equitable benefit sharing mechanisms.</i>						
3.2.1. Initiate a landscape ecosystem services assessment as input in the production of a map and database which will be used as a decision making platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ecosystem services assessment and valuation report. ▪ Geographical Information System (GIS) and information database established. 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This activity has not yet been scheduled to start.
3.2.2. Development of the Seima Protected Forest Core Area REDD+ project benefit-sharing and fund management arrangements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Initial set of benefit-sharing recommendations designed and consulted on with local communities and government. ▪ Initial set of fund management mechanisms designed and consulted on with local communities and government. 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This activity has not yet been scheduled to start.

Activities	Deliverables	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2 nd Quarter Activities
3.2.3. Establishment of program of direct payments to local people for biodiversity protection, as a model of Payments for Environmental Services (PES).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design document and financial strategy for PES program. 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This activity has not yet been scheduled to start.
<i>Sub-Objective 3.3: Community participation in income-generating activities broadened, with a special focus on under-represented groups.</i>						
3.3.1. Mainstream improved participation of often-marginalized groups, notably women, the extreme poor and ethnic minorities, into livelihood activities.	Develop strategies for incorporating under-represented groups.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaboration with the LEAF regional gender assessment initiative conducted under the UN REDD program to highlight gender issues and enhance women's leadership in natural resources, biodiversity, and climate change-related activities, and augment women's roles in climate change mitigation and livelihood improvement (Winrock project team).
	Provide awareness raising and training in techniques.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This activity has not yet been scheduled to start.
3.3.2. Evaluate the level of equity and inclusion achieved under each of the forest management and community enterprise/benefit-sharing models supported by the project and develop guidelines for improvement.	Develop guidelines and training and implement improved benefit sharing model in selected communities.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This activity has not yet been scheduled to start.

V. PERSONNEL

- Mobilization

Project Office:

The COP, Dennis J. Cengel, and the DCOP, Sun Boreth, were mobilized by Winrock International on November 26, 2012 and started project management in Phnom Penh on December 3, 2012. During the quarter, several positions in the project office were advertised with a closing date for responses of January 15, 2013. Interviews are to be conducted for each of those positions in the next quarter.

Project Partner Offices:

WCS – The following personnel were contracted and will arrive in Cambodia in the next quarter:

Alex Diment, ‘WCS Senior Technical Advisor,’ who will be responsible for all WCS activities in Mondulkiri, including those funded through the Supporting Forests and Biodiversity project.

Keziah Hobson, ‘Ecotourism Strategy Development Consultant.’

Matthew Nuttall, ‘Biodiversity Monitoring Consultant.’

Other positions, including those of ‘Overall Coordinator of Community Development Activities in the Seima Protected Forest’ and ‘Ecotourism Development Officer’ will be recruited in the next quarter.

WWF - TORs were developed for WWF’s project team and recruitment was initiated for Technical Advisors of Biodiversity and Protected Area Management and Enforcement.

RECOFTC - TORs were prepared for two Provincial Partnership Coordinators and a Training Specialist was contracted.

EWMI – Staff members, including one Technical Advisor and two Program Officers engaged with the Prey Lang Community Network via the USAID PRAJ project, were assigned to allocate 35% of their time to the Supporting Forests and Biodiversity project. This is expected to be sufficient to support EWMI’s limited activities. The position of Coordinator remained unfilled and recruitment for that position will be undertaken during the next quarter.

VI. FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Quarterly Expenditures through December 31, 2012.

Cost Element	Total approved budget	Obligated amount	Actual Expenditures through December 31, 2012
Program Activities	\$16,215,409		\$62,792
General and Administrative/Indirect Costs	\$3,593,914		\$33,031
Total USAID Funds	\$19,809,323	\$4,936,159	\$95,823
Cost Share	\$2,385,591		
Total Program Amount	\$22,194,914	\$4,936,159	\$95,823